

## MONEY AND TRADE.

### DALLAS WEEKLY MARKET REVIEW.

The Course of the Foreign and Home Cotton Markets—Ments Higher and Excited—Grain and Flour Steady—Groceries Generally Firm—in Oil Field—Business and the Elements, Etc.

DALLAS, TUESDAY AFTERNOON. { FEBRUARY 22, 1881.

Trade for the week ending to-day has again been more disappointing than otherwise. It began under a cloud, but from that day it has been slowly improving, seven days ago every road in this country was almost if not entirely impassable. Rain after rain had fallen until the earth could hold no more water than it contained. But for the past five days the sun has been shining warmly and to-day our highways are in order. Information this morning says a great many people shut up on their farms for weeks and months will be in the city Wednesday and the days of the week following.

It also says farm work is still suspended. Not three consecutive days have passed since the first of January, when it was possible to plow. The Dallas county farmers are four or six weeks behind, and the whole of North Texas is in the same condition. Cotton-picking is not even wholly finished. Nothing save a few acres planted, and no ground broken for cotton and corn. We were fully one month ahead of this state of affairs at this time last year. There are, however, seven months to intervene before the frosts of next fall begin to appear, and therefore ample time to break up the ground, sow, cultivate and reap an abundant harvest. By plowing in with all energies the time lost can be made up.

#### MONEY and Securities.

Some complaints are being made about a slight stringency in money among merchants and others who have for so long been shorn of much of their usual business by adverse elements. But the mechanics and laborers of all kinds are once more at work upon full time, and as this beautiful weather will bring forward the surplus crops remaining unused, these complaints will speedily cease.

The local banks report a large fund on hand for the accommodation of good paper, which they seek and readily take whenever offered at the rate of 9 to 12 per cent. per annum. There has been a moderate demand for exchange upon New York, New Orleans and the western cities, we make the following quotations:

	Buying. Selling.
New York.....	Par. 12
St. Louis.....	12
Chicago.....	12
New Orleans.....	12
Galveston and Houston.....	12
Commercial exchange upon all points par. 12 discount.	
Sterling, 94 80 to \$4 90.	
Berling, 90 days, \$4 75 to \$5 50.	
Francs 50, 905 to 915.	
Gold, silver, other than the trade dollar, par. Trade dollars.....	90 cents
Mexican dollars.....	40
Mexican halves.....	40
Mexican quarters.....	15

#### An Oil Field.

For several years past the Waters-Pierce Oil company, a St. Louis concern, has enjoyed an exclusive monopoly of the oil trade of Texas, and dictated prices to merchants who have suffered under their sway, but every time one ventured to run oil-carload from another market the monopoly would go with him with a great cut. Texas is a big state and a monopoly of shoe strings in it would make any man a millionaire in a few years, much less all the oil she uses.

A few weeks ago "The Great Western Oil Company of Cleveland, Ohio," entered Texas with the declaration it had come to stay, regardless of losses. Coal oil was then 23 cents per gallon in this market, but upon the arrival of the first shipment of the Great Western the Waters-Pierce cut to 20. Another cut to 18 followed, and will another to 14 cents per gallon, when it rests to-day. Merchants are encouraging Cleveland all they can and during the fight will pick up enough oil to run them a year or two. It would be a good thing to step in and buy several thousand barrels at present rates if a safe place can be found to store it. You must, however, look well to your insurance conditions before stocking up with more than they allow. But let the fight go on in oil and may a similar one soon break out in railroads.

#### The Course of Trade.

Business has been gradually improving for several days past. Bright weather has put a new face upon things. A few more northerns will come of short duration, and then spring will burst forth.

In meat it has been a week of excitement. All sorts of rumors are in the western packer's air about "corner," "syndicate," and the like, and among others that even Jay Gould has laid his giant hand upon, or is laying in enough to rule the summer rates. At this distance the truth is hard to get at. But every dispatch for the last eight days has either noted an advance or quoted a firm market. The net rise here has been one cent per pound, which is extraordinary at this season, and shows something is in the wind. We quote charred bacon sides 90 cents, dry salted, and others in proportion. Stocks are moderate with the demand light.

Corn has moved along rather soberly, with the least possible offering. A few wagon-loads have been forced through the mud, and arrived with teams half-killed. Loos' ear has pretty uniformly commanded 25 cents per bushel. The demand has been wholly for local consumption.

Oats have advanced. They were at 40 cents when the last general review was written. They then went to 45 and 46. The only sale reported to-day was at 44 for loose from wagons. Sacks from stores are said to be at 35 cents. Receipts are expected to immediately improve.

Hay has raised half-and-half lower. Looses 20 to 21. Baled 80 to 84 per ton. Stocks ample to meet the demand. Sales for future delivery are hard to make at any price, as green grass is beginning to get as high or two long.

In other stock-stuff little is doing, and less going. Bran is selling in a retail way at 20 cents and 21.

Coffee is steady at the old quotations. There has been an even-going demand all the week, mostly through orders.

Sugar and syrup have not changed, and are steady today, with the exception of quoted numbers in the immediate future.

The demand for canned goods is imported, and will, as spring approaches, without question increase to supersede the apples.

In other commodities of the general grocery

market there has nothing new occurred, and few quotations ordered revised.

Flour has not changed in the least. Fancy family has jobbed at 84 10 to \$4 30. Stocks ample with trade moderate. It has been monotonously steady for many weeks past with no signs of a change soon.

The season for bagging and ties has about closed. A few sales only are reported during the week.

Potatoes are very active. Large stocks of all the favorite seed brands are held. Sales very heavy. Prices range from \$3 35 to \$3 75 per barrel, for job lots. By the single barrel at 25 higher. Planting season is now at hand and the demand for that purpose is the largest ever known.

Sweet potatoes are neglected and irregular. Apples are in slim demand at \$3 25 and \$3 75 per barrel.

Butter is scarce to-day and firm at 17 to 20 cents for good table. Country is wanted by almost every family grocer in town.

Eggs are hard to quote accurately. We have heard of no sales below 125, but plenty of opinions they are worth 10. The market carries a full stock with excessive receipts anticipated during the week.

We quote cabbages 50 per crate with stock fair.

Wood has been in moderate demand, and from \$2 50 to \$4 50 per cord for four foot, and \$1 50 more for sawn stove.

The Horse and Mule Market.

The offerings during the week have been moderate and the demand heavy for farm and stock work. All kinds of horses and mules are from 25 to 40 per cent. higher than a year ago, except ponies and sheep bought for idle boys. In mules, rats sell for \$1 25 to \$1 50 per pair, medium \$1 75 to \$2 00 and extra \$1 25 to \$1 50. A good plow work-horse sound will readily fetch from \$3 00 to \$7 50. A combination of gear, harness and saddle, good order and sound, \$7 50 to \$1 00 and \$1 25. Fancy saddle and harness are fair in inquiry and salable at \$1 50 to \$2 00.

Building Materials.

Lumber is very active and heavy draughts are daily being made upon dealers. West and northwest of us immigrants are in their tents and other folks trying to improve their property. And hence they are on the market for the purchase of all manner of plank, sash and blinds, nails, paints, etc.

Cotton.

This market moved along with small receipts and unfavorable news from abroad until Monday, when it went down 2%. Up to that time the quotations were barely maintained, with a want of confidence in the future. Speculators left the field to order buyers, and these were disposed to touch it as little as instructions would allow. This, the 22d, being Washington's birthday and a legal holiday, no dispatches were sent from American markets. We note the market very quiet and quote:

Ordinary..... 8  
Good Ordinary..... 8 1/2  
Low Middling..... 9 1/2  
Stripping Middling..... 10  
Mittel Middling..... 10 1/2  
Good Middling..... 11 1/2  
Middling Fair..... 12 1/2

Commercial exchange upon all points par. 12 discount.

Sterling, 94 80 to \$4 90.

Berling, 90 days, \$4 75 to \$5 50.

Marks 90 to 95.

Gold, silver, other than the trade dollar, par.

Trade dollars..... 90 cents

Mexican dollars..... 40

Mexican halves..... 40

Mexican quarters..... 15

Fish and Oysters.

Fish—12¢ per lb.

Oysters—per can 25 cents for Baltimore, 35 Matagorda, 60 per Berwick bay.

Meat and Lard.

Bacon—Long clear sides 92¢; short clear 94¢; Breakfast bacon 11¢.

Salts—Long clear sides, 9; short clear 9 1/2.

Hams—Plain sugar cured 10%; canavised 10% Lard;—Tender, 11; half-marrow, 11 1/2; pails, 12 1/2 to 15 pounds, 12 1/2.

Meat—Lard..... 10 1/2

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